

Overview of Groundwater Management Tools

Governor's Water Initiative
Northwest Basins Planning Area
Stakeholder Meeting
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Gerry Walker
Deputy Assistant Director



Groundwater Management Act (1980)

- **Created Arizona Department of Water Resources**
- **Goals of the Groundwater Management Act:**
 - Control severe groundwater depletion
 - Provide the means for allocating Arizona's limited groundwater resources to most effectively meet the state's changing water needs
 - Augment Arizona's groundwater supplies through development of additional water supplies
 - Preserve groundwater for use in drought



Groundwater Management Statewide Provisions

- New Wells - Must file an “Notice of Intent” before drilling any well
- Licensing of Well Drillers
- Registration of all wells
- Groundwater Transportation Protections
- Adequate Water Supply Requirements
- Underground Storage & Recovery
- Community Water Systems Reporting & Planning

Groundwater Management Irrigation Non-Expansion Areas

- Statewide provisions apply

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- Expansion of irrigation is prohibited
- Limitations on commercial or industrial pumping
- Monitoring and Reporting

Groundwater Management Active Management Areas

- Statewide provisions apply

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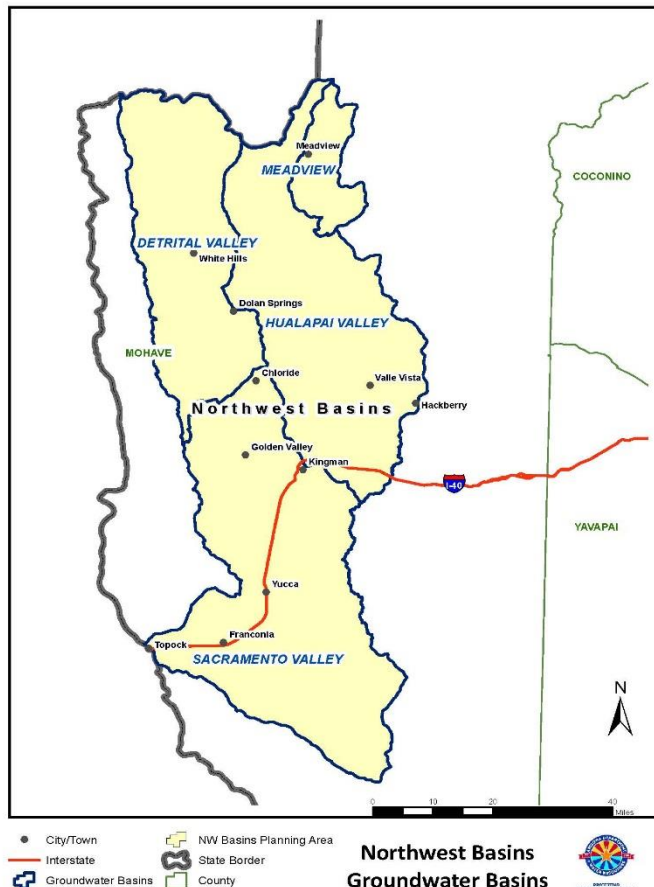
- Expansion of irrigation is prohibited
- Limitations on commercial or industrial pumping
- Monitoring and Reporting

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- Management Goals, Plans, & Conservation Measures
- Withdrawal, Transportation, & Utilization Authorities
- Augmentation & Storage
- Assured Water Supply



Northwest Basins Planning Area



- Groundwater Basins
 - Detrital Valley
 - Hualapai Valley
 - Meadview Basin
 - Sacramento Valley



Northwest Basins Planning Area

Current Status

- The Northwest Basins is not within any AMA or INA that requires additional water management.
- ADWR regulatory authority limited outside of an AMA or INA
- No reporting requirements in the Northwest Basins Planning Area outside of Community Water System reporting



Northwest Basins Planning Area

Current Status

- Only limitation on groundwater use outside an AMA or INA is that it must be put to beneficial use and be withdrawn from a legally constructed and registered well.
- In Arizona, groundwater in an aquifer is considered a public resource. The Arizona Supreme Court held “there is no right of ownership of groundwater in Arizona prior to its capture and withdrawal from the common supply”.



Northwest Basins Planning Area Future Options

- AMAs and INAs are the only two management tools that are currently available in statute.
- Could the existing tools be part of the consensus based solution set?
 - Non-regulatory opportunities
- Other options might need to be passed legislatively.

**ADWR portal available for stakeholders to provide
information: adwrwellinfo@azwater.gov**

Gerry Walker,

Deputy Assistant Director of Water Planning

Phone: 602.771.8511

glwalker@azwater.gov

John Riggins,

Water Resource Specialist, Water Planning

Phone: 602.771.4782

jrriggins@azwater.gov

www.azwater.gov



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ARIZONA'S WATER SUPPLIES
for ITS NEXT CENTURY**